

# Governor commends Virginia National Guard

Governor Ralph Northam and Virginia Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs Carlos Hopkins commended the Virginia National Guard for the organization’s service to commonwealth and country at a legislative reception hosted Jan. 16, 2019, by the Virginia National Guard Association and Virginia Army and Air National Guard Enlisted Association in Richmond, Virginia.

“Over the last year I have been so proud of all the great work that our Guard does, whether it has been serving overseas or answering the call when we have had natural disasters,” Northam said. “You are always there, and people know that you are always there and you are known for your service to the commonwealth.”

Northam also extended a special thanks to families for their support that is so critical to the VNG’s mission success. He also expressed appreciation to the members of the Virginia General Assembly for their support in the efforts to make Virginia one of the most military and veteran friendly states in the country.

In December 2018, Governor Northam and First Lady of Virginia Pam Northam hosted a reception for Virginia National Guard Soldiers, Airmen and their families.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2019/01/18/12504/>



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Virginia National Guard News Headlines

AG shares legislative priorities with JLC, GA Military Caucus

Maj. Gen. Timothy P. Williams, the Adjutant General of Virginia, updated members of the General Assembly Military and Veterans Caucus and the Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations on the Virginia National Guard Jan. 16, 2019, in Richmond, Virginia.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2019/01/18/12512/>

Virginia Air National Guard recognizes top performers

The Virginia Air National Guard’s 192nd Wing recognized its top performers during an annual awards ceremony Jan. 12, 2019, at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2019/01/24/12521/>

Virginia Army National Guard recruiters recognized for excellence

Maj. Gen. Timothy P. Williams, the Adjutant General of Virginia, recognized the Virginia Army National Guard’s top recruiters Jan. 23, 2019, at the Sergeant Bob Slaughter Headquarters at Defense Supply Center Richmond, Virginia.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2019/01/24/12502/>

VNG speaker series: Command historian offers leadership perspective

Virginia National Guard Soldiers and Airmen, plus guests, retirees and family members, received some valuable leadership lessons from an unlikely source during the VNG’s speaker series Jan. 16, 2019, in Richmond, Virginia.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2019/01/17/12490/>

Join the Virginia Army National Guard, Virginia Air National Guard or the Virginia Defense Force

For information about joining the Virginia Army National Guard, the Virginia Air National Guard or Virginia Defense Force, visit the appropriate link below:

Va. Army National Guard

<http://nationalguard.com/va>

Va. Air National Guard

<https://www.192fw.ang.af.mil/join>

Va. Defense Force

<http://vdf.virginia.gov/joinvdf/>

## 529th CSSB officially begins mission in the Middle East

Soldiers assigned to the Virginia National Guard's Virginia Beach-based 529th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion officially assumed responsibility of their assigned battlefield sustainment operations Jan. 1, 2019, and the start of the mission was commemorated by a transfer of authority ceremony Jan. 7.

The 529th, also known as Task Force Cavalier, manages the day-to-day sustainment operations throughout Iraq, Syria and Jordan, in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. It assumed responsibility from the U.S. Army Reserve's Alabama-based 787th Support Battalion.

"This ceremony is not about change, but about continuity. Never has this been more important than today," said Col. Todd Erskine, 300th Sustainment Brigade commander. "This combat sustainment support battalion provides support for U.S. and coalition forces throughout Operations Inherent Resolve."

The area of responsibility includes three countries, covering over 270,000 square miles, and 66 million people.

As a sustainment provider, the 529th CSSB provides material and services to ensure the warfighter can accomplish their mission. In addition, they provide sustainment and general support commodity hub operations, distribution of all classes of supply, area support maintenance, central receiving and shipping point operations, and contractor oversight.

"Your mission is extremely important and will require you to remain focused and more importantly agile. Your team is part of a pivotal and larger strategic operation" said Erskine.

"Your legacy lives on through the professional relations and friendships we have built on our way here," Lt. Col. Dennis Rohler, commander of the 529th, told the outgoing commander of the 787th. "Your team ensured TF Cavalier was 100% set up for success, and for that we are truly thankful and as we go forward you will be right there beside us."

The group of approximately 70 Soldiers assigned to the 529th



**Lt. Col. Dennis Rohler and Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Coleman uncasing their colors during a transfer of authority ceremony Jan. 7, 2019, Camp Taji, Iraq.**

officially began federal active duty with a departure ceremony held Nov. 25, 2018, in Virginia Beach, Virginia. There, hundreds of friends, family members and fellow Soldiers gathered alongside state government and VNG senior leaders to say farewell to the group.

The 529th is expected to remain on mission until September 2019.

"We have received your orders, TF Cavalier is fully nested within your guidance and prepared," Rohler told Erskine. "We have rehearsed for this mission for the past 6 months and with the assistance of TF Grizzly, we are completely prepared for this transfer of authority."

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2019/01/13/12508/>



**The 529th CSSB conducts a "combat patch" ceremony Jan. 11, 2019, to recognize the unit's wartime service in the Middle East.**

### MORE ON THE WEB

**192nd Support Squadron recognizes new commander**

<https://go.usa.gov/xEBdQ>

**Photos: Soldiers sworn in during military appreciation game**

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157675782421627>

**Photos: VDF takes part in statewide radio exercise**

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157675781278027>

**Photos: 229th BEB Soldiers support snow response**

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157675577934687>

**Photos: Gallavan takes command of Saber Squadron**

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/vanguardpao/sets/72157704218391851>



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